

Col. Joshua Young House
Seguin, Texas.
Guadalupe Co

HABS No. 33-A-9

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PHOTOGRAPHS
WRITTEN HISTORICAL AND DESCRIPTIVE DATA
District No. 33

Historic American Buildings Survey
Marvin Dickenson, District Officer
San Antonio, Texas.

COL. JOSHUA YOUNG HOUSE
SEGUIN, GUADALUPE COUNTY, TEXAS

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Mrs. Joseph Zorn is the present owner and occupant. She and Mr. Zorn (deceased) acquired the property June 24th, 1874.

The house was originally built for Mrs. Katherine De Rossette LeGette, from whom Mr. and Mrs. Zorn bought the property.

Alterations made have all been of a minor nature, and were made by the Zorns. Originally there was no stairway to the lower part of the house, so the little stairway on the east porch was added. A wood floor was laid in the Dining Room. Other changes were in the nature of repairs from time to time.

The house was built about 1851, by Col. Joshua Young, who was Mrs. LeGette's brother. Col. Young had a crew of slaves, who were skilled in building. Henry Erkel is given credit for the woodwork in the house, doors, trim, mantel, etc., which are all walnut. John Wesley Reagan was in charge of the "limecrete" construction; the formula for this early gravel and lime concrete was evolved by Dr. Richard Parks of Seguin, who later became a nationally known chemist.

Seguin was first settled by families who migrated to Texas from the old South, and the early social customs followed those of the States they had left as closely as pioneer conditions would permit. The town was originally known as Walnut Springs, but later was renamed in honor of the Texas patriot, Juan Seguin.

Due to the fact that the house was built during the time of the Crimean War, it was named "Sebastopol". The unusual roof construction was designed by Col. Young to make the house cooler. After rains considerable water always stood on the roof.

Henry Yelvington, grandson of Mrs. LeGette, and Mrs. Joseph Zorn are the principal sources of information.

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information contained herein. Mr. Yelvington's mother, the only living daughter of Mrs. LeGette, lives in Austin with her daughter, Mrs. Jane Yelvington McCallum.

Author Bartlett Coker

Approved Marion Eiskewroht

Reviewed 1936, H.C.F.